FROM: Mrs. Suzanne Coleman

**Elementary Special Education- Bruce Public School** 

104 W. Washington Ave. Bruce, WI. 54867

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POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION

Hon. Michael Kubayanda

Chairman

**Postal Regulatory Commission** 

901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200

Washington, DC 20268-0001

Re: Docket number: MC2021-78

4/28/2021

Dear Chairman Kubayanda,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the impact of moving bound printed matter parcels from the Market Dominant to the Competitive Product category. I know this will dramatically increase the rates for flyers and books that are mailed to schools.

I teach second through fifth grade in the Bruce School District, a one building K-12 district in Northern Wisconsin. There is no doubt that the additional costs will ultimately be passed on to those purchasing books—students and their families. There are already too many barriers to reading for most families I work with. We are a high poverty school. I depend on access to affordable books, which the bound printed matter rates provide, to help me close the gap for my lower-income students who normally could not afford higher-priced books.

All of my students, which from year to year vary between 15-25, come from families that don't have the means to create home libraries for their children. As a Scholastic Book Clubs partner, I am able to earn and use Bonus Points to build a classroom library of books for my students. I also use low-cost but high-quality books as rewards in my class for children who would otherwise never have a new book of their own. I have sponsors, who for a low price, purchase and provide books for my students to take home. These books, both in the classroom and at home, continue to inspire a love of reading in my students, which has a positive impact on their success in all areas of life.

The pandemic has already had a tremendously negative consequence on my students' learning experience and literacy rates in the United States. The increase in mailing costs of educational materials will make access to children's literature even more difficult. I urge you to deny this transfer, or to exempt educational materials, so that I can continue to provide access to affordable, quality books for my students and families. The impact of this change for children would be detrimental. Please consider the hardships that these families, and the education system as a whole, already has to bear when making your decision.

Sincerely,

Suzanne M. Coleman

## SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRUCE

104 West Washington Avenue Bruce, Wisconsin 54819 SAINT PAUL MN 550 EA

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Chairman
Postal Regulatory Commission
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